IN THE CLAIMS

1.   (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

enabling a standard notification rule to generate a first notification upon an

occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and

enabling an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard notification rule

upon the occurrence.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

generating a second notification to a second person in the hierarchy based on the

advanced notification rule.

3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

suspending the generating of the first notification based on the advanced

notification rule.

5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Canceled)

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, where 1, wherein the advanced

notification rule includes a scope and wherein the scope of the advanced

notification rule is configured by at least one of the group consisting of a

company, a satellite, a host assigned to a company, a service configured on a host

for a company, a check type, a host state, a service state, a contact group, and a message pattern.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 where the advanced notification rule is ~~enabled~~ <u>configured to preempt the standard notification rule</u> for a temporary amount of time.

9.   (Previously Presented) A machine readable medium having stored thereon instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the following:

enabling a standard notification rule to generate a first notification upon an occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and

enabling an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard notification rule upon the occurrence.

10.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 9 further comprising:

generating a second notification to a second person in the hierarchy.

11.   (Canceled).

12.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 9 further comprising:

suspending the generating of the first notification.

13.   (Canceled).

14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim ~~16~~ 9, wherein the advanced notification rule includes a scope where the scope of the advanced notification rule configured by at least one of the group consisting of a company, a satellite, a host assigned to a company, a service configured on a host for a company, a check type, a host state, a service state, a contact group, and a message pattern.

16.   (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim ~~1 where~~ 9, wherein the advanced notification rule is ~~enabled~~ configured to preempt the standard notification rule for a temporary amount of time.

17.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:
        means for enabling a standard notification rule to generate a first notification upon an occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and means for enabling an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard notification rule upon the occurrence.

18.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:
        means for generating a second notification to a second person in the hierarchy.

19.   (Canceled)

20.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:
        means for suspending the generating of the first notification.

21.   (Canceled)

22.   (Canceled)

23.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~22, where~~ 17, wherein the

advanced notification rule includes a scope and wherein the scope of the

advanced notification rule is configured by at least one of the group consisting of

a company, a satellite, a host assigned to a company, a service configured on a

host for a company, a check type, a host state, a service state, a contact group, and

a message pattern.

24.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 17 where the advanced notification

rule is ~~enabled~~ configured to preempt the standard notification rule for a

temporary amount of time.

25.   (Previously Presented) An digital processing system, comprising:

a processor configured to enable a standard notification rule to generate a first

notification upon an occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a

hierarchy, and to enable an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard

notification rule upon the occurrence; and

a communications device coupled to the processor to transmit the notifications.

26.   (Currently Amended) The digital processing system of claim 25 ~~where~~ wherein

the communications device is configured to transmit the second notification to a

second person in the hierarchy based on the advanced notification rule.

27.   (Canceled)

28.	(Original) The digital processing system of claim 25 where the processor suspends the generation of the first notification.

29.	(Original) The digital processing system of claim 25 where the communications device transmits the first notification to the first person in the hierarchy and the processor acknowledges the first notification.

30.	(New) The method of claim 1, wherein the advanced notification rule comprises a redirect standard notification.

31.	(New) The method of claim 30, wherein the redirect standard notification redirects the first notification to a second person.

32.	(New) The method of claim 1, wherein the advanced notification rule comprises a supplemental notification.

33.	(New) The method of claim 32, where the supplemental notification directs the first notification to a second person in addition to the first notification to the first person.

34.	(New) The method of claim 1, wherein the advanced notification rule comprises a suspend standard notification.

35.	(New) The method of claim 34, wherein the suspend notification, upon satisfaction of the standard notification rule, suspends the standard notification rule.

36. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the advanced notification rule comprises an automatic acknowledgement.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the automatic acknowledgement automatically acknowledges receipt of the standard notification by the first person.

38. (New) The method of claim 37, further comprising preventing escalation of the first notification using the automatic acknowledgment.

39. (New) The machine readable medium of claim 1, wherein the advanced notification rule comprises one of a redirect standard notification, a supplemental notification, a suspend standard notification, or an automatic acknowledgement.

40. (New) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the advanced notification rule comprises one of a redirect standard notification, a supplemental notification, a suspend standard notification, or an automatic acknowledgement.